1955 in Scotland

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Events from the year **1955 in Scotland**.

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Incumbents [edit source]

Further information: Politics of Scotland and Order of precedence in Scotland

- Monarch – Elizabeth II
- Secretary of State for Scotland and Keeper of the Great Seal – James Stuart

Law officers [edit source]

- Lord Advocate – James Latham Clyde until January; then William Rankine Milligan
- Solicitor General for Scotland – William Rankine Milligan until January; then William Grant

Judiciary [edit source]

- Lord President of the Court of Session and Lord Justice General – Lord Clyde
- Lord Justice Clerk – Lord Thomson
- Chairman of the Scottish Land Court – Lord Gibson

Events [edit source]

- 1955 – Dounreay Nuclear Power Development Establishment founded with the primary aim to develop Dounreay as the site for testing previously untried fast breeder reactor technology.[1][2]
- 24 February – a big freeze across the UK results in many roads being blocked with snow; Caithness is practically cut off. The Royal Air Force works to deliver food and medical supplies to the worst affected areas.[3]
- 21 March – American evangelist Billy Graham begins a seven-week Scottish crusade at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow.[4]
- 1 April – the South of Scotland Electricity Board is formed by merger.
- 23 April – the Scottish Cup Final is broadcast live on television for the first time. Clyde F.C. draw 1-1 with Celtic, winning the replay 1-0.[4]
- 19 May – Greenock Coin Hoard found.
- 27 May – United Kingdom general election: In Scotland, as throughout the UK as a whole, the Conservatives have a majority of seats.
- 25 June – the Scottish Aviation Twin Pioneer STOL transport aircraft, built at Prestwick, first flies.
- 30 June – two Hawker Sea Hawk jet fighters flying from RNAS Lossiemouth independently crash into the North Sea; one pilot is killed.[5]
- 25–27 July – 'Operation Sandcastle': The first load of deteriorating captured Nazi German bombs filled with Tabun (nerve agent) is shipped from Cairnryan on the SS *Empire Claire* for scuttling in the Atlantic Ocean.
- 30 September – first electricity supply to the isolated railway community at Riccarton Junction.[6]
- 10 November – a major fire in Edinburgh destroys the footwear warehouse of C. W. Carr Aitkman in Jeffrey Street.[4]
- 11 November – a second major fire in Edinburgh largely destroys the C&A fashion store in Princes Street.[4]
- 9 December – Cumbernauld is designated a New town.[7]
- 14 December – RMS *Carinthia* is launched at John Brown & Company's shipyard on Clydebank for the Cunard Line's Canadian service.
- The collection of the world's first Museum of Childhood is established on Edinburgh's Royal Mile (initially at Lady Stair's House) by optician Patrick Murray.
- Archaeological excavations on St Ninian's Isle begin.

Births [edit source]

- 18 January – Robin Wales, Labour politician, mayor of the London Borough of Newham
- 3 February – Kirsty Wark, television presenter
- 19 March – John Burnside, writer
- 31 March – Angus Young, rock musician
- 23 April – Allan Forsyth, footballer
- 2 May – Willie Miller, footballer
- 5 May – John Stroyan, Anglican bishop
- 14 May – Alasdair Fraser, fiddler
- 4 June – Val McDermid, crime novelist
- 13 June – Alan Hansen, footballer and television presenter
- 1 July – Candia McWilliam, fiction writer
- 8 July – Douglas Flint, banker
- 12 July – Robin Robertson, poet, novelist and editor
- 25 August – John McGeoch guitarist (died 2004 in England)
- 11 October – Sally Magnusson, journalist and broadcast presenter
- 12 October – Aggie MacKenzie, television presenter
- 28 October – Jeff Stewart, actor
- 12 November – Les McKeown, pop-rock singer (died 2021)
- 22 November – Mary Macmaster, harpist
- 2 December – Janice Galloway, writer
- 6 December – Anne Begg, Labour politician
- 23 December – Carol Ann Duffy, poet

Deaths [edit source]

- 21 February – Sir Henry Wade, surgeon (born 1876)
- 26 February – Agnes Mure Mackenzie, writer and historian (born 1891)
- 3 March – Lewis Spence, writer and folklorist (born 1874)
- 11 March – Sir Alexander Fleming, bacteriologist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (born 1881; died in London)
- 22 April – Herbert MacNair, artist (born 1868)
- 11 October – Hector McNeil, politician (born 1907)
- Mary Newbery Sturrock, artist and designer (born 1890)
- Salvador Ysart, glassblower (born 1878 in Barcelona)

The arts [edit source]

- Robin Jenkins's novel *The Cone Gatherers* is published.
- Sandy MacMillan, Thomas Limond and Ross Taylor's Scots language nursery rhyme collection *Bairnsangs* is published, as by Sandy Thomas Ross.
- Edith Anne Robertson's Scots language poetry collections *Voices frae the city o trees; and ither voices frae nearbye* and *Poems Frae the Suddron O Walter De La Mare Made Ower Intil Scots* are published.

See also [edit source]

- 1955 in Northern Ireland

References [edit source]

1. ^ Munn, Andy. "UKAEA – The First Fifty Years". *Caithness.Org*. Retrieved 5 February 2011.
2. ^ Robin McKie, Science Editor, Guardian, 25 May 2008
3. ^ "Britain's big freeze". *On This Day*. BBC News. 24 February 1955. Retrieved 8 March 2016.
4. ^ [a] [b] [c] [d] "Notable Dates in History". *The Flag in the Wind*. The Scots Independent. Archived from the original on 23 May 2014. Retrieved 16 July 2014.
5. ^ "Two Sea Hawks Down". *The Times* (53261). London. 1 July 1955. p. 10.
6. ^ *The Railway Magazine* October 1955.
7. ^ "Cumbernauld Town Centre". Retrieved 7 April 2013.

v · t · e **Years in Scotland (843–present)** [show]

Categories: 1955 in Scotland | 1950s in Scotland | Years of the 20th century in Scotland | 1955 in Europe | 1955 by country | 1955 in the United Kingdom

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